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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR DECEMBER 1987 MARCH 1988

D.C. Labor Market Shows Long-Term Improvements

December Rate Drops to 6%

Labor Force

The District

Labor market activities in the District of Columbia closed out 1987 on a very positive note. The unemployment rate declined in December from 6.4 percent, where it had been locked for three months, to 6.0 percent. This was the lowest rate for the month of December since 1973, some fourteen years ago, when the rate registered 5.9 percent. Over the past sixteen years, the District's unemployment rate in December has averaged 7.9 percent, so this December's rate represents nearly a 2 percentage point improvement over the long-term monthly average.

During the month, 317,800 District residents held jobs and 20,100 were on the unemployment rolls looking for work. Compared to November, there were 1,500 fewer jobseekers and 200 more people working. Over the past 16 years, the unemployment rate in the District generally has declined between November and December by one tenth of a percentage point. Thus, this year's decrease of 0.4 percentage point probably is more than seasonal and, thus, significant.

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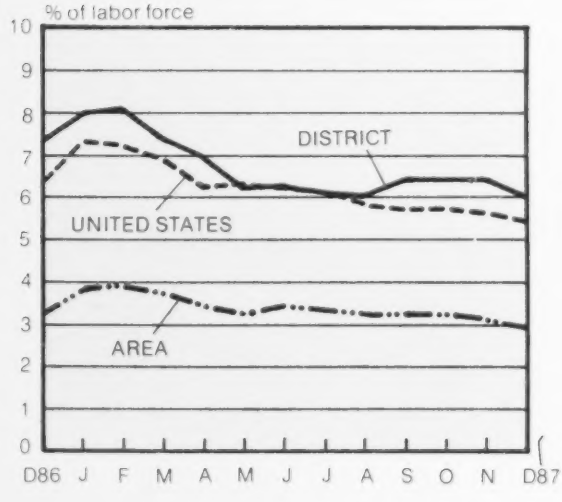
Unemployment Rates
December 1986 to December 1987



Government of the District of Columbia
Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor

JOB SERVICE
Department of Employment Services
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Director

The Department of Employment Services

Working to keep Washington working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

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DATA FOR DECEMBER 1987 — MARCH 1988

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The *Area Labor Summary* is published monthly by the D.C. Department of Employment Services, 500 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The Division of Labor Market Information and Research (Richard Groner, Chief) prepares the *Summary*. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and development of data herein: Charles Roeslin, Rufus Daniels, Eileen Dent, Nancy Anderson-Grant, Elsie Taylor, and Gwendolyn Thompson; and administrative support was provided by Robin McDonald.

Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling: (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

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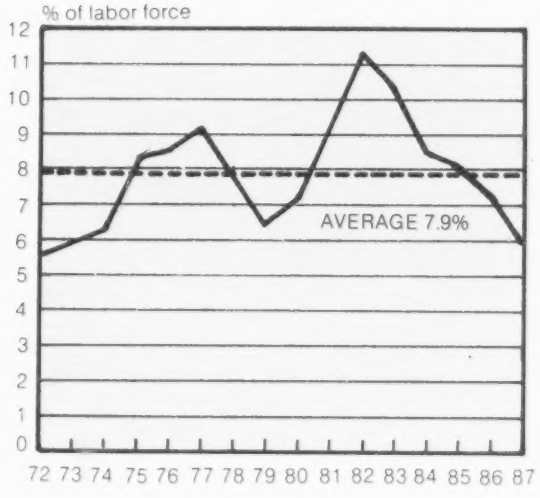
Compared to December 1986, there were 13,400 more District residents with jobs--an increase of 4.4 percent. Unemployment rolls over the year declined by 4,000 workers--a decrease of 16.6 percent. As a result of improved employment and decreased unemployment, the unemployment rate in December was 1.3 percentage points lower than December 1986.

District Unemployment Rates in the Month of December 1972-1987



Based on preliminary monthly estimates, the District's annual unemployment rate for all of 1987 should be around 6.7 percent. This is down from 7.6 percent in 1986 and down from the record high of 11.7 percent set in 1983, just four short years ago. This year's rate is the lowest annual average rate recorded in the District since 1974 (thirteen years ago) when the rate was 6.0 percent.

Thus the current labor market status of District residents documents a strong economic recovery from the recessions of the early 1980's and very positive long-term changes fueled by strong private sector job growth in the District and the Area.[1]

Seasonally unadjusted unemployment among all civilian workers in the United States in December was 5.4 percent, down from 6.3 percent in December of last year.

The Area & Suburbs

Unemployment in the Washington Metropolitan Area dropped below 3 percent to 2.9 percent. This is the lowest December rate for the Area since 1971 when the rate was 2.7 percent. The suburban rate, also recorded a small decrease from 2.4 percent to 2.3 percent. The Area's decrease was generated by a 3,300 person monthly reduction in the unemployment rolls (45 percent of whom were District residents). Most of the increase on the Area's employment side of the ledger (98 percent) occurred among suburban residents.

Over the year, (December 1986 to December 1987), the number of unemployed Area residents declined by 5,500, nearly 73 percent of whom were District residents. On the jobs side, employment in the Area increased by 69,100 new workers. Nearly 20 percent of the increase in employment occurred among District residents, even though they account for only about 16 percent of the Area's labor force. Thus, over the year, District residents have increased their share of regional jobs and decreased their share of joblessness.

With unemployment measuring 2.9 percent

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1. For a review of labor market activities in 1987, a preview of 1988 and a preliminary look at the turn of the century, see the January edition of the Department of Employment Services' monthly magazine, **Employment Today**. Free copies of the magazine may be ordered by calling (202) 639-1000.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the
Washington, D.C. MSA, December 1987[a]

	Dec.[b] 1987	Nov.[c] 1987	Dec. 1986	Nov. 1986	Net Change From Nov. 1987	Net Change From Dec. 1986
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	338,000	339,100	328,400	327,100	-1,100	9,600
Total Employed	317,800	317,600	304,400	303,300	200	13,400
Total Unemployment	20,100	21,600	24,100	23,800	-1,500	-4,000
Unemployment Rate[d]	6.0	6.4	7.3	7.3	-0.4	-1.3
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,805,500	1,797,100	1,751,400	1,749,300	8,400	54,100
Total Employed	1,763,600	1,753,200	1,707,900	1,705,700	10,400	55,700
Total Unemployed	42,000	43,800	43,500	43,600	—1,800	-1,500
Unemployment Rate[d]	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	—0.1	—0.2
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,143,500	2,136,200	2,079,800	2,076,400	7,300	63,700
Total Employed	2,081,400	2,070,800	2,012,300	2,009,000	10,600	69,100
Total Unemployed	62,100	65,400	67,600	67,400	-3,300	—5,500
Unemployment Rate[d]	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.2	-0.2	-0.3

a Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding.
b. Preliminary.
c. Revised.
d. Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia; the Virginia cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Continued from page 3

in the Area, 2.3 percent in the suburbs, and only 6.0 percent in the District, the local labor market is very tight. Only in the District does there appear to be a small supply of readily available workers and that supply is relatively small. Thus, labor shortages now constitute the major labor market problem in the Metropolitan Area.

Based on preliminary monthly estimates, unemployment for all of 1987 measured 3.4 percent of the Area's labor force. Like in the District, this is a low not seen since the early 1970's. In 1972, the Area's rate was 3.3 percent.

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
December 1987 & December 1986
(Percent)

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment
DECEMBER 1987			
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	15.8	15.3	32.4
Suburbs	84.2	84.7	67.6
DECEMBER 1986			
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	15.8	15.1	35.7
Suburbs	84.2	84.9	64.3

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits totalled 8,605 in December 1987 -- down 68 claimants from November. In December, 54 percent of all UI recipients were males. Occupationally, clerical and sales workers comprised 26 percent of the total December claimants. This was followed by professional, technical, and managerial workers at 25 percent. Service workers accounted for another 22 percent. The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 9.6 weeks for all claimants -- down from 10.0 weeks in November.

Over the month, the duration for males declined from 9.8 weeks to 9.4 weeks, while that for females decreased from 10.2 to 9.8 weeks. In December 1986, the average duration for males was 9.3 weeks and 9.9 weeks for females.

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Dec.[a] 1987	Nov.[b] 1987	Dec.[b] 1986
District of Columbia	6.0	6.4	7.3
Calvert County	4.1	4.2	3.8
Prince Georges County	3.1	3.4	3.0
Charles County	3.0	3.2	2.5
Frederick County	2.9	2.9	3.1
Stafford County	2.5	2.4	2.6
Prince William County	2.3	2.1	2.2
Montgomery County	2.2	2.4	2.1
Alexandria City	2.0	2.0	3.1
Falls Church City	1.9	1.9	1.8
Fairfax County	1.8	1.8	2.2
Arlington County	1.8	1.7	2.2
Fairfax City	1.6	1.6	2.2
Manassas City	1.6	1.5	2.0
Loudoun County	1.5	1.6	1.8
Manassas Park City	1.4	1.5	1.8

a. Preliminary.
b. Revised

Source: Department of Employment Services, Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased 3,700 for a 0.6 percent gain between November and December. Private sector growth was responsible for 70 percent of the increase with 2,600 new jobs. Services and Trade accounted for 92 percent of private sector growth with gains of 1,400 and 1,000 jobs, respectively. The prime contributor to Services growth was Business Services (600 jobs), while holiday related seasonal gains in Retail Trade accounted for the increased jobs in Trade.

The public sector grew by 1,100 jobs. All gains were seasonal in the Federal Government, primarily at the Postal Service and the Kennedy Center.

Over the year, (December 1986 to December 1987), the number of District jobs rose by 1.4 percent for a gain of 9,000 jobs. The private sector gained 11,500 jobs for a substantial 3.0 percent rate of growth. Services accounted for 72 percent of this growth with the leading jobs contributors being All Other Services (2,200 jobs) and Hotels (2,000 jobs). Significant Services sector growth was also registered in Business Services (1,300 jobs), Health Services (1,300 jobs) and Legal Services (1,000 jobs). Retail Trade contributed 2,100 new jobs with the major producer being Eating and Drinking Places (1,700 jobs), while Construction added 1,000 new jobs.

The public sector lost 2,500 jobs, for an over-the-year decline of 1.0 percent, as a sizable loss in Federal Government (6,600 jobs) was partially offset by growth in State and Local Government (4,200 jobs). The

Continued on page 6

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	Dec. 1987[b]	Nov. 1987[c]	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1987[b]	Nov. 1987[c]	Dec. 1986
Total	**656.0**	**652.3**	**647.0**	**2,089.3**	**2,074.6**	**2,039.0**
Total Private Sector	395.5	392.9	384.0	1,520.8	1,508.7	1,479.2
Total Government	260.5	259.4	263.0	568.5	565.9	559.8
INDUSTRY						
Manufacturing	**15.9**	**15.9**	**15.6**	**86.4**	**86.2**	**86.1**
Total Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	42.0	42.0	42.6
Stone, Clay, Glass and Concrete Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.3	3.4	3.4
Electrical & Electronic Machinery, Equip. & Sup.	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.6	21.5	22.6
All Other Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.2	17.1	16.5
Total Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	44.3	44.2	43.5
Food & Kindred Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.6	5.6	5.3
Printing & Publishing	12.0	12.0	11.7	31.7	31.7	30.9
All Other Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.1	7.0	7.3
All Other Manufacturing	3.9	3.9	4.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.8**	**0.9**	**0.9**
Construction	**15.3**	**15.3**	**14.3**	**125.1**	**125.5**	**123.7**
Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities	**24.8**	**24.8**	**24.4**	**102.0**	**101.1**	**96.7**
Railroad	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.0	5.0	4.8
Transportation (except Railroad)	N/A	N/A	N/A	46.3	45.4	42.5
All Transportation	9.5	9.5	9.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Communication and Public Utilities	15.3	15.3	15.0	50.7	50.7	49.3
Trade	**67.3**	**66.3**	**65.3**	**436.1**	**426.9**	**424.9**
Wholesale	9.0	9.0	9.0	78.6	78.3	75.1
Retail	58.3	57.3	56.2	357.5	348.6	349.8
General Merchandise	4.9	4.7	5.1	46.1	42.9	46.8
Food	N/A	N/A	N/A	47.1	46.8	48.0
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	38.7	38.7	37.8
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	28.4	26.8	27.8
Eating & Drinking Places	27.7	27.6	26.0	109.7	108.8	104.3
All Other Retail	25.7	25.0	25.1	87.6	84.5	85.0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	**36.6**	**36.5**	**37.1**	**121.4**	**121.2**	**117.5**
Banking	7.2	7.2	7.4	22.2	22.1	22.0
All Other	29.5	29.3	29.7	99.2	99.1	95.5
Services	**235.5**	**234.1**	**227.2**	**649.1**	**646.9**	**629.3**
Hotels & Lodging Places	17.2	16.9	15.2	34.5	34.2	32.3
Personal Services	4.1	4.0	4.2	23.9	23.7	23.8
Business Services	51.6	51.0	50.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	34.5	34.4	33.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Legal Services	24.8	24.6	23.8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Membership Organizations	30.7	30.6	30.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Other Services	72.6	72.5	70.4	590.7	589.1	573.2

(continued)

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	Dec. 1987[b]	Nov. 1987[c]	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1987[b]	Nov. 1987[c]	Dec. 1986
Government	**260.5**	**259.4**	**263.0**	**568.5**	**565.9**	**559.8**
Federal Government	204.4	203.3	211.0	350.0	348.2	354.8
State & Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	218.5	217.7	205.0
State & Local (ex. Pub. Transportation)	51.6	51.5	46.9	N/A	N/A	N/A
Public Transportation	4.6	4.6	5.1	N/A	N/A	N/A

a. Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. b. Preliminary. c. Revised.

Data includes all full- and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information & Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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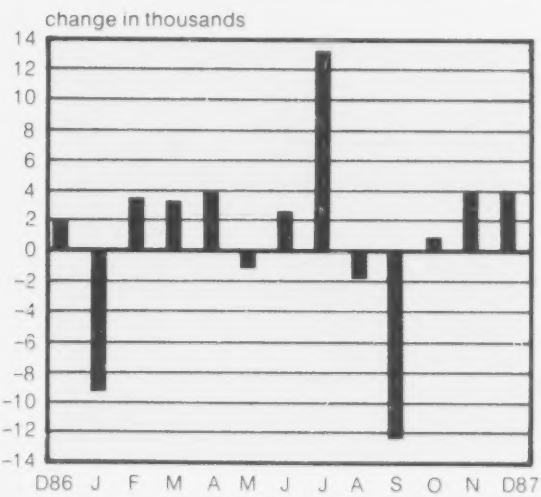
Monthly Job Growth
The District
December 1986-December 1987



transfer of Saint Elizabeth's Hospital to the District Government accounted in large measure for this shift in employment.

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased by 0.8 percent for a gain of 11,000 jobs between November and December. The private sector accounted for 86 percent of the growth with seasonally induced gains in Trade (8,200 jobs) responsible for 86 percent of private sector gains. A slight majority (54 percent) of this trade gain was concentrated in the Maryland suburbs.

The private sector increased by 1,500 jobs with gains in both Federal Government (700 jobs) and State and Local Government (700 jobs), with the two suburban areas sharing equally in this growth.

Over the year (December 1986 to December 1987), suburban jobs grew at a rate of 3.0 percent for a gain of 41,300 jobs. The Virginia suburbs, grew at a rate of 4.4 percent accounting for 72 percent of the new jobs created while the Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 1.6 percent.

The private sector accounted for 73 percent of total growth with the prime contributors Services--(11,500 jobs) and Trade (9,200 jobs)--responsible for 69 percent of the new private sector jobs. Sixty-three percent of the Services growth and 53 percent of the new jobs in Trade are attributable to the Virginia suburbs. The Maryland suburbs

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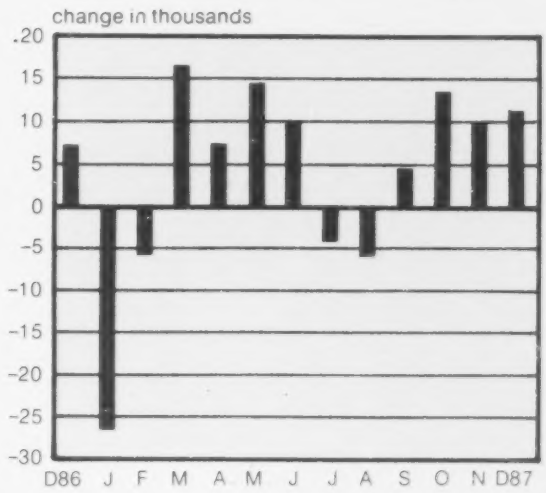
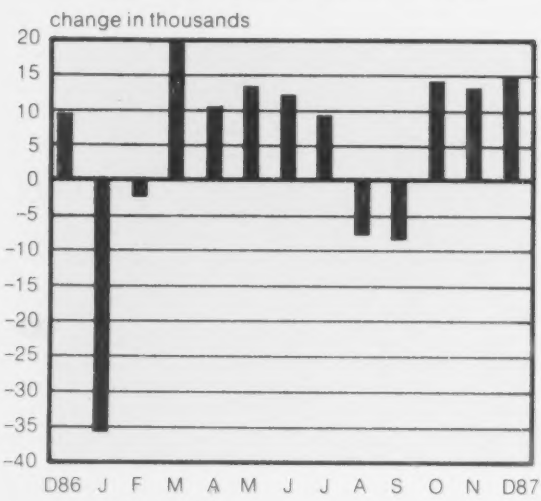
Monthly Job Growth
The Suburbs
December 1986-December 1987



Monthly Job Growth
The Area
December 1986-December 1987



were responsible for 53 percent of the growth in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (4,900 jobs), while 73 percent of the growth in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (4,400 jobs) occurred in the Virginia suburbs. Public sector growth of 11,200 jobs was reflective of gains in both State and Local Government (9,300 jobs) and Federal Government (1,800 jobs) occurring entirely in the Virginia suburbs.

The Area

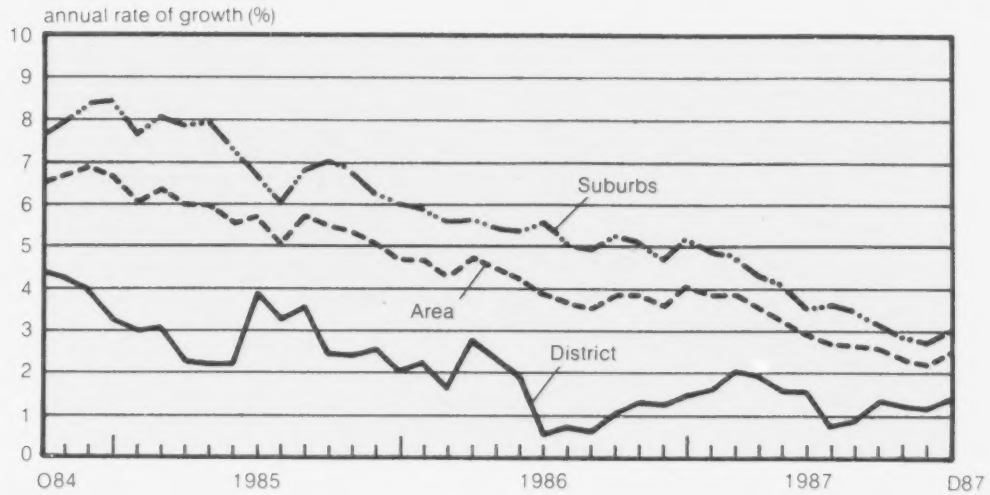
The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 14,700 jobs between November and December for a 0.7 percent rate of growth. The private sector grew at a rate of 0.8 percent, creating 12,100 jobs with seasonal gains in Trade (9,200 jobs) and a 2,200 job increase in Services.

The public sector gained 2,600 jobs with increases in both Federal Government (1,800 jobs) and State and Local Government (800 jobs).

Over the year, (December 1986 to December 1987), the area grew at a rate of 2.5 percent, creating 50,300 new jobs. The private sector accounted for 83 percent of the growth, adding 41,600 jobs and experiencing a 2.8 percent rate of growth. The leaders in growth, Services (19,800 jobs) and Trade (11,200 jobs), were responsible for three of every four new private sector jobs. Significant growth also occurred in Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (5,300 jobs) and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (3,900 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.6 percent for a gain of 8,700 jobs with substantial growth in State and Local Government (13,500 jobs) offsetting a decline in Federal Government (4,800 jobs). The suburbs were responsible for 69 percent of the new State and Local Government jobs, while the Federal Government reductions were confined to the District which accounts for 58 percent of area federal jobs.

Monthly Over-The-Year Rate of Job Growth
October 1984 to December 1987



Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past 38 months (October 1984 to December 1987), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 4.4 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has been steadily declining after peaking at 6.8 percent in December 1984. Between December 1986 and December 1987, the Area's job growth slowed to 2.5 percent.

The suburban portion of the Area is still the generator of most new jobs, having grown over the past year at a rate of 3.0 percent, but below its 38 month long-term average of 5.6 percent. The over-the-year growth turned upward this December for the first time in 11 months in the Area, and the first time in 5 months in the suburbs. Over the past year, the District proper has added new jobs at a rate of 1.4 percent, and like the suburbs, below its 38-month average of 2.1 percent.

Profile of Job Growth Rates
October 1984 to December 1987

The Area	
Average 38 months	4.4%
High, December 1984	6.8%
Low, November 1987	2.2%
Current month	2.5%
The Suburbs	
Average 38 months	5.6%
High, January 1985	8.4%
Low, November 1987	2.7%
Current month	3.0%
The District	
Average 38 months	2.1%
High, October 1984	4.4%
Low, July 1986	0.5%
Current month	1.4%

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from 93,900 new jobs produced between December 1984 and December 1985 to 50,300 between December 1986 and this past December. Over the past year, 41,300 new jobs were added to

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Labor Force Profile:

Black Youth & Young Adults in the District

One of the major program priorities of the District government and the Department of Employment Services is the training and employment of youths and young adults (16-24 year olds). This *Area Labor Summary* article reviews the labor force status of these young workers over the past several years. Because unemployment in the District is concentrated primarily among black workers, the study focuses on young blacks. The period covers three years of economic recovery from record high levels of unemployment set in 1983 when the City's overall unemployment rate reached 11.7 percent of the labor force. Annual average data from the Current Population survey (CPS) is utilized in this study.[1]

From a historical point of view, unemployment among young, especially young blacks, is always proportionately among the highest of all demographic groups. This is true across the country and in the District. It was also true during this study period (1983-1986). For example, in 1983, the unemployment rate for all workers in the United States averaged 9.6 percent, but the rate for black teenagers (16-19) averaged 48.5 percent. By 1986, the U.S. rate had fallen to 7.0 percent overall, but the black youth rate was still 39.3 percent. In the District, the corresponding figures were: unemployment rate in 1983, 11.7 percent; black teenage unemployment 52.4 percent. In 1986, total unemployment was 7.7 percent and black teenage unemployment was 31.1 percent. Thus, unemployment among the young tends to rise and fall along with the general level of unemployment, but proportionately, it is always much higher among the young.

1. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a monthly household survey conducted by the Bureau of Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. BLS uses the survey to prepare the monthly labor force estimates for the United States. Local CPS samples are not large enough to provide statistically relible monthly estimates in the District or most states, but annual averages from the survey do provide reasonably reliable local estimates of the labor force status.

The Teenage and Young Adult Population in the District

Over the three-year-study period, the number of black youths residing in the District declined. In 1983, there were an estimated 80,000 black youths between the ages of 16-24. They represented about 16 percent of the District's "NonInstitutional Population" (the working age population 16 years and above). However, between 1983 and 1986, young blacks of working age declined significantly by an estimated 12,000 individuals, or by 15 percent.

Youth Labor Force

In 1986, about 65 percent of the 68,000 District black youths were active participants in the labor market, either working or seeking work. This participation level was up significantly from 1983, by some 7 percentage points. The lower participation level in 1983 probably reflected the economic condition of the labor market during the year.

There was, however, a significant difference in participation by teenagers (16-19) and young adults (20-24). Labor force participation by teenagers ranged from a low of about 39 percent in 1983 to a high of nearly 47 percent in 1985. Participation among the older group, on the other hand, grew from about 58 percent in 1983 to nearly 65 percent in 1986. The younger group is still

Labor Force Status Of Black Youth and Young Adults
District of Columbia
1983-1986
(annual averages in thousands)

	Non-Inst. Population	Participation Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
1983						
16-19	29	38.8	11	5	6	52.4
20-24	51	69.4	35	25	11	30.0
Both	80	57.5	46	30	17	37.0
1984						
16-19	28	45.4	13	8	5	40.5
20-24	44	72.0	32	24	7	23.0
Both	72	62.5	45	32	12	26.7
1985						
16-19	32	46.6	15	10	5	34.8
20-24	40	72.4	29	22	7	24.2
Both	72	61.1	44	32	12	27.3
1986						
16-19	27	43.6	12	8	4	31.1
20-24	41	76.6	32	25	7	21.7
Both	68	64.7	44	33	11	25.0

Source: Current Population Survey

of school attendance age. In fact, of the 15,000 District teenagers not in the labor force in 1986, 73 percent told CPS census takers that the reason they were not seeking work was because they were attending school. (Note, labor force participation by this younger group is examined in more detail in a subsequent section of this profile.)

In 1986, black teenagers and young adults comprised approximately 13.4 percent of the District's labor force, down from three years earlier, but a decline (0.7 percent) which was smaller than their decline in population. This relationship between changes in population and labor force reflects, of course, the improvement in their labor force participation rate. In 1986, there were actually about the same number of young workers as in 1983, but a smaller number of young people in the City.

Youth Employment

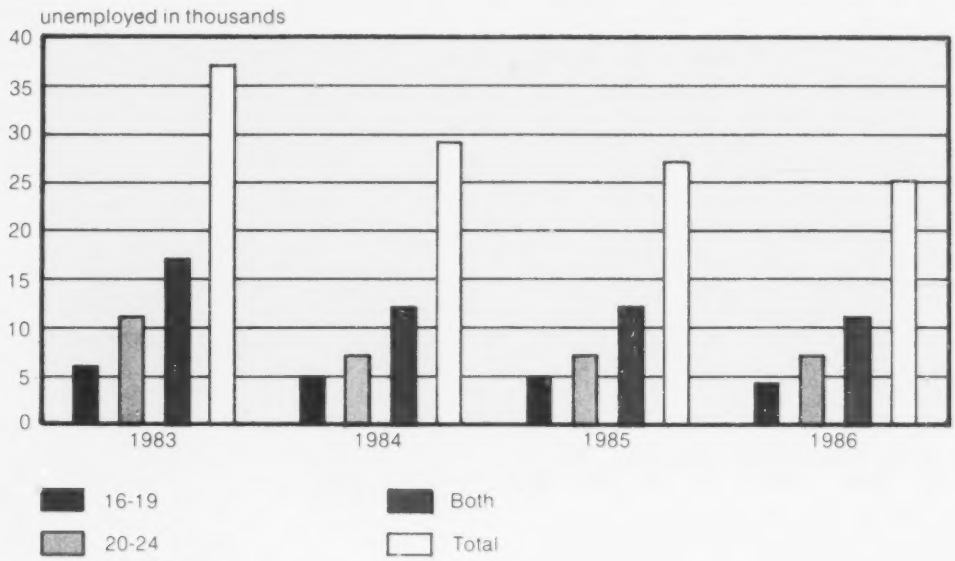
Between 1983 and 1986, employment of District residents of all ages increased by 15,000 or 5.2 percent. Employed black youths and young adults in both years represented about 10 percent of all working residents. Young workers shared equally in the jobs created by the recovery and maintained their relative share of jobs, despite the fact, they held a smaller share of the population in 1986.

Youth Unemployment

As a group, the unemployment rate among teenagers and young adults declined some 12 percentage points between 1983 and

Continued on page 12

Unemployment Among Black Youth and Young Adults
The District of Columbia 1983-1986



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1986. Numerically, this represented a decline of 6,000 jobless youths or nearly half (46 percent) of the total reduction in unemployment in the City. But in 1986, unemployment still affected one of every four of these young workers. This was more than three times the rate for all workers in the City. Over the study period, these young workers comprised approximately 13-14 percent of the labor force. As a group, they comprised approximately 44 percent of the total jobless population. This group of young black workers clearly represents a major source of unemployment in the District.

The Youth and Young Adult Labor force in the Year 2000[2]

The youthful labor force (ages 16-24) in the year 2000, projected at current labor force participation rates, will be significantly smaller. The young labor force will decline by over 26,000 workers--a reduction of 39 percent. Thus, at the turn of the century, there will be a shortage of new workers entering the labor force to fill entry level jobs. If the current labor force participation rate of black teenagers (43.6 percent) in the District can be raised to the current level of all U.S. teenagers (54.7 percent), by the year 2000, this would add approximately 4,000 additional young workers to the labor force.

Youth and Young Adult Labor Force
District of Columbia
1985 & Projected to 2000*

	1985	1990	1995	2000
16-19	19,315	16,088	14,170	15,740
20-24	47,415	33,934	28,265	24,895
Both	66,730	50,022	42,435	40,635

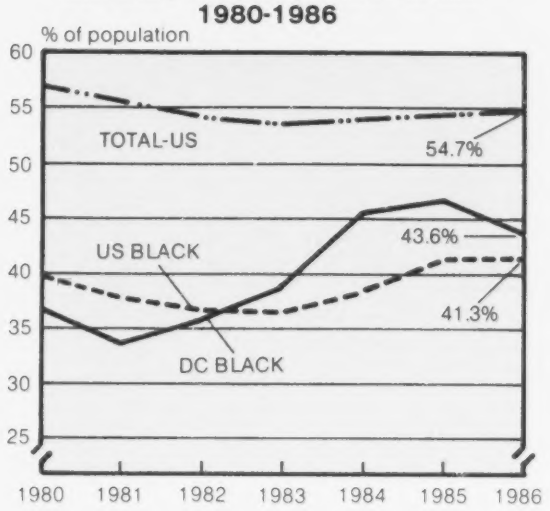
** Projected at 1986 labor force participation rates.*

Special Comparative Analysis—Black Teenagers

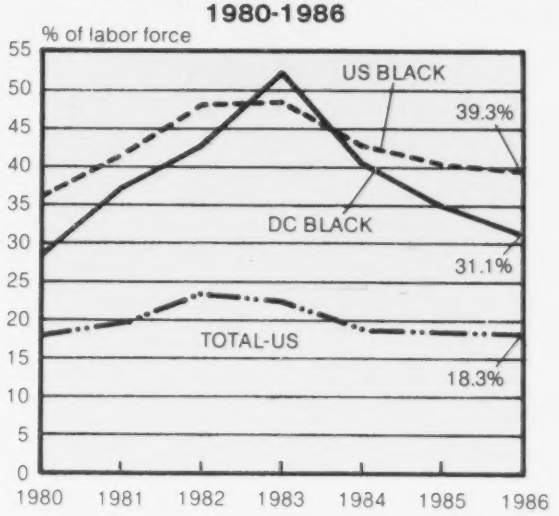
Data contained in the annual Bureau of

2. For a profile of the District's total working age population in the year 2000, see the November 1987 edition of the Department's **Area Labor Summary**.

Labor Force Participation Rates
Youth 16-19
US Total, US Blacks & DC Blacks
1980-1986



Unemployment Rates
Youth 16-19
US Total, US Blacks & DC Blacks
1980-1986



Labor Statistics' publication, Geographic Profile of Employment & Unemployment permits additional comparisons of work statistics for teenagers, but not for young adults 20-24. Our teenage analysis compares labor participation rates and unemployment rates for all teenagers in the United States. Both black teenagers in the United States and black teenagers in the District are included. For this special analysis, the period is 1980-1986.

Teenage Labor Force Participation

Labor force participation of black teenagers in the United States and in the District tends to be significantly lower than for all teenagers across the country. However, there appears to be a tendency towards black youths closing the gap, especially in the District during the past four years. For example, in 1980, the difference between participation rates of all teenagers in the United States and black teenagers in the District was 20.2 percentage points. By 1986, the difference had closed to 10.8 percentage points. There was also a small (3 percent) decrease between 1985 and 1986. This will bear watching in the future.

Youth* Labor Force Participation Rates
for the United States
Blacks Youth in the U.S. & the District
1980-1986
(annual averages-percent)

	U.S. Total	U.S. Blacks	D.C. Blacks
1980	56.9	39.5	36.7
1981	55.4	37.7	33.5
1982	54.1	36.6	35.7
1983	53.5	36.4	38.8
1984	53.9	38.3	45.4
1985	54.5	41.2	46.6
1986	54.7	41.3	43.6

* 16-19 year olds
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Geographic Profile of Employment & Unemployment, 1980 thru 1986.

Unemployment Rates

Over the six-year period, black youth unemployment rates in the United States were more than double the rate for all American teenagers. While black District youths have had unemployment rates much in excess of all teenagers across the Nation, District rates in all but one year (1983) were below those of their national black counterparts.

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Youth* Unemployment Rates for the United States Blacks Youth in the U.S. & the District 1980-1986
(annual averages-percent)

	U.S. Total	U.S. Blacks	D.C. Blacks
1980	17.7	35.8	28.0
1981	19.6	41.4	37.1
1982	23.2	48.0	42.8
1983	22.4	48.5	52.4
1984	18.9	42.7	40.5
1985	18.6	40.2	34.8
1986	18.3	39.3	31.1

* 16-19 year olds
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Geographic Profile of Employment & Unemployment, 1980 thru 1986.

Observations

The number of young blacks (16-24 year olds) in the District has declined in recent years, but this was not evidenced in the labor market, because proportionately more youths were working or looking for work. District youths have benefited from the recent expansion of jobs in the District and the Area, as well as, from special District government programs. But their incidence of unemployment is still numerically and relatively very high, for they represent more than forty percent of the total jobless in the City. Still unemployment among young black workers in the District tends to be less severe than for black teenagers across the country.

The shrinking youth population in the District will continue over the next twelve years creating between now and the turn of the century shortages of new workers for entry level jobs normally filled by the young.

Because of this future shortage of young workers, additional public and private resources will be necessary to assure that the smaller supply of young workers is adequately prepared for the jobs of tomorrow.

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

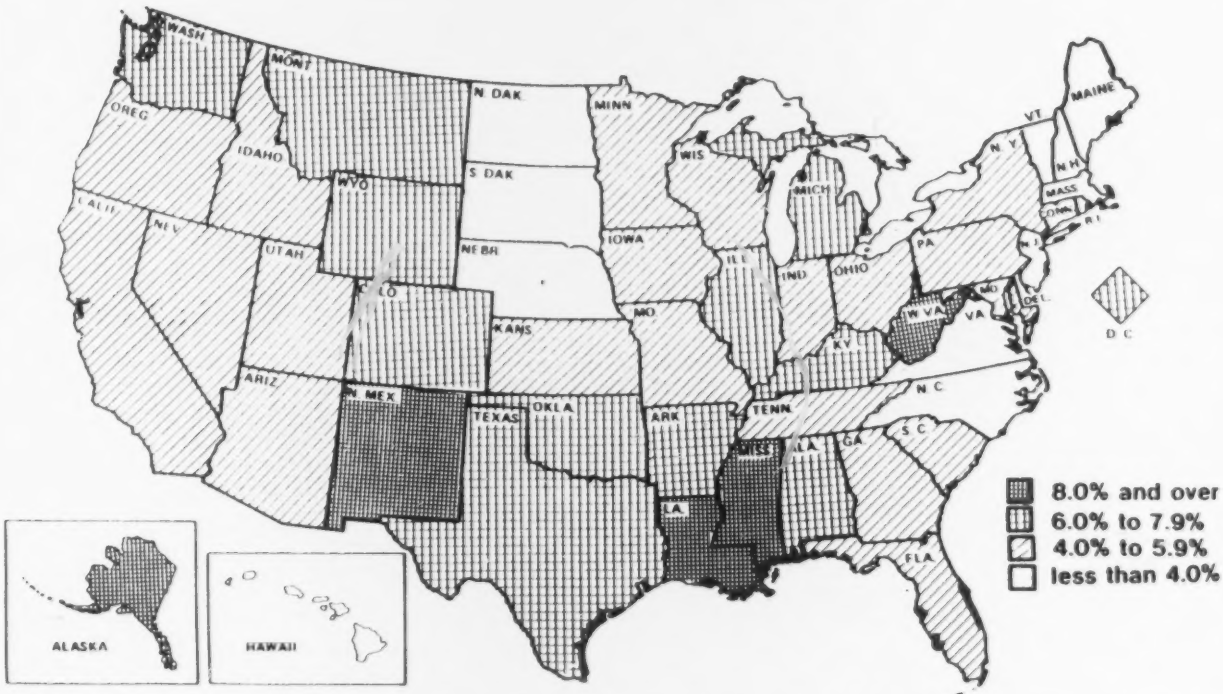
In November 1987, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. Historically, the Washington Area's jobless rate declines somewhat between October and November. In November, the decline in unemployment and the small rise in employment resulted in the unemployment rate declining by 0.1 percent to 3.1 percent. This was the twenty-seventh lowest rate of all 269 areas reporting. A year ago, the rate was 3.2 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 3.1 percent was the second lowest recorded for all major metropolitan areas. The Boston Area had the lowest rate unchanged at 2.0 percent. A year ago, the Boston rate was 3.1 percent. The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, recorded a November rate of 4.5, also unchanged from October. A year ago, it was 4.6 percent. The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, had a November jobless rate of 3.4 percent down from 3.7 percent in October. A year ago, it was 4.3 percent.

States

When the District of Columbia (with a November preliminary unemployment rate of 6.4 percent) was ranked with the 50 states, the District had the fifteenth highest jobless rate in the country. This was two notches above the October standing. Maryland's rate

Unemployment Rates by State, October 1987



edged up from 4.0 percent to 4.1 percent in November. Virginia's rate at 3.6 percent was down from 3.9 percent in October. Maryland and Virginia ranked fortieth and forty-first, respectively, in the standing of the 51 jurisdictions.

Twenty-six states reported rates at or below the national unadjusted rate of 5.6 in November. The District of Columbia's rate, at 6.4 percent was above, and Maryland's and Virginia's were below the national rate.

Twenty states reported over-the-year unemployment rate decreases of 1 percentage point or more. The largest declines were in Louisiana (2.9 points), Alabama (2.7 points), Oregon (2.3 points), and Wyoming (2.2 points).

New Hampshire, at 2.2 percent, had the lowest unemployment rate in the Nation for November. Massachusetts (2.3 percent), Delaware (2.9 percent), Rhode Island (3.1 percent), and Connecticut and New Jersey (both 3.2 percent) had the next lowest rates. Twenty-four other states reported rates below 6 percent. Five states had rates exceeding 8.0 percent--West Virginia (10.8 percent), Louisiana (10.5 percent), Alaska (9.6 percent), Mississippi (9.4 percent), and New Mexico (8.7 percent).

Cities

In comparison with 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with a preliminary rate of 6.4 percent) had the eighteenth lowest jobless rate. This was down one notch from the October position at seventeenth. In November, the average unemployment rate of all 26 cities was 6.8 percent. Of the 26 cities, twenty four reported lower jobless rates and two reported higher rates. Nine (9) of the selected cities have jobless rates of 6.5 or less. The District of Columbia falls under this category.

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Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities*

City	November 1987*	November 1986
1. Gary, IN	12.2	19.0
2. Detroit, MI	10.7	11.0
3. New Orleans, LA	9.5	11.5
4. St. Louis, MO	8.7	9.3
5. Houston, TX	8.5	10.9
6. Cleveland, OH	8.1	10.1
7. Birmingham, AL	7.9	10.5
8. Chicago, IL	7.5	8.3
9. Dayton, OH	7.4	9.1
10. Newark, NJ	7.1	9.2
11. Buffalo, NY	7.1	8.7
12. Dallas, TX	7.1	6.6
13. Atlanta, GA	6.9	7.5
14. Milwaukee, WI	6.9	7.2
15. Miami, FL	6.8	8.0
16. Baltimore, MD	6.8	7.2
17. New York, NY	6.6	6.1
18. District of Columbia	**6.4**	**7.3**
19. Cincinnati, OH	6.2	7.3
20. Pittsburgh, PA	6.1	6.6
21. Philadelphia, PA	6.0	6.3
22. Salt Lake City, UT	5.6	5.4
23. Columbus, OH	5.2	5.5
24. Los Angeles, CA	5.0	7.2
25. San Francisco, CA	4.1	5.4
26. Boston, MA	2.7	4.1

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

The District's rate normally is much higher than the Baltimore rate. But in recent months, the trend reversed itself. In November, the former was 6.4 percent while the latter was slightly above at 6.8 percent. Double-digit jobless rates were reported in only two selected cities--Gary (12.2 percent) and Detroit (10.7 percent). Boston had the lowest rate, unchanged at 2.7 percent, followed by San Francisco at 4.1 percent. The largest over-the-year declines in joblessness were in Gary (6.8 percent), Birmingham (2.6 percent) and Houston (2.4 percent). Over the year, New York and Salt Lake City reported increases in joblessness of 0.5 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively.

Departments

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for the month of December 1987 showed a $17.90 increase. Average Weekly Hours increased 1.7 hours, as Average Hourly Earnings dropped 2 cents an hour.

Stone, Clay and Glass Products registered the largest increase. Weekly Earnings went up $68.77. Weekly hours showed an increase of 5 hours. Hourly Earnings were up 36 cents. The overall increase was due to overtime being worked.

Food and Kindred Products had the most significant decrease because of less business, other than seasonal. Weekly Earnings were down $2.48, as Weekly Hours decreased 0.7 hour. Hourly Earnings were down 27 cents an hour.

Electric Machinery, Equipment and Supplies had more business this month. Printing and Publishing's data increase was due to more overtime being worked.

Unemployment Insurance Activities December 1987

There were 3,500 initial claims taken in December 1987 for unemployment com-

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
December 1987

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. 1987	Nov. 1987	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1987	Nov. 1987	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1987	Nov. 1987	Dec. 1986
Total Manufacturing	**436.61**	**418.72**	**405.07**	**39.8**	**38.1**	**38.8**	**10.97**	**10.99**	**10.44**
Durable Goods	**446.42**	**414.23**	**393.30**	**43.3**	**40.1**	**41.4**	**10.31**	**10.33**	**9.50**
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	483.11	414.34	422.06	44.2	39.2	43.2	10.93	10.57	9.77
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	467.49	464.22	457.87	40.9	40.9	42.2	11.43	11.35	10.85
Other Durbable Goods	422.31	381.84	342.59	44.5	39.9	40.4	9.49	9.57	8.48
Non-Durable Goods	**429.62**	**420.78**	**416.42**	**37.1**	**36.4**	**36.4**	**11.58**	**11.56**	**11.44**
Food & Kindred Products	427.69	430.17	474.02	38.6	37.9	39.7	11.08	11.35	11.94
Printing & Publishing	460.03	445.67	443.58	35.8	34.9	34.9	12.85	12.77	12.71
Other Non-Durable Goods	340.05	342.05	333.74	40.1	40.1	40.8	8.48	8.53	8.18

Total Production Workers	**December 1987**	**November 1987**	**December 1986**
	43,100	**43,000**	**41,800**

*Break taken in series.

pensation benefits from former workers in the District of Columbia. This was 23 percent above the previous month. Likewise, the monthly movement in weeks of joblessness claimed and weeks actually compensated was up--13 and 15 percent, respectively. All the other measures increased substantially over the month also, with the exception of the average weekly benefit payment. By its very nature, the payment was not expected to change significantly. The substantial monthly swings appear seasonal--associated with weather and related causes. The same pattern and general magnitudes were evident during 1986 and 1985. The total benefit outlay for the month was $5.9 million.

Compared to December of last year, all measures for total programs declined except the average weekly benefit amount. This was also expected based on the general increases in the wage bases that determine benefit amounts. The total outlay in December 1986 was $6.9 million.

The fourth quarter of 1987 showed decreases from 1986 in three of four selected activities. In another case cited earlier, as expected, the increase was in the average weekly benefit amount. The quarterly data indicate that of the three years shown, 1986 was the peak year in general activity. However, a review of 1986 shows that the general activity declined steadily each quarter during the year.

The annual data for 1985 through 1987 indicate the same trend for the most part as the quarterly analyses. The outlay in 1986 was 16 percent above 1985, principally due to the increase in the maximum weekly benefit amount from $206 to $250 effective January 1986. The average weekly payout increased as a result. In addition, the number of idle weeks compensated in 1987 rose 5 percent from the previous year. In 1987, claims and weeks compensated declined approximately 7 percent, but the total outlay increased slightly. The increase

Continued on page 19

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
December 1987

	Dec. 1987	Nov. 1987	Dec. 1986	Percent Change From Nov. 1987	Percent Change From Dec. 1986
State UI Program[a]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,356	2,716	3,674	+23.6	- 8.7
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	32,617	28,859	39,463	+13.0	-17.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	31,058	27,073	38,103	+14.7	-18.5
Total Benefits Paid	$5,463,712	$4,694,820	$6,244,213	+16.4	-12.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$175.92	$173.41	$163.88	+ 1.4	+ 7.3
Number of First Payments	1,685	1,383	1,891	+21.8	-10.9
Number of Final Payments	865	731	997	+18.3	-13.2
Total Beneficiaries	8,455	7,782	9,719	+ 8.6	-13.0
Federal Program[b]					
Initial Claims Taken	111	90	140	+23.3	-20.7
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,287	2,113	3,076	+ 8.2	-25.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,173	1,837	3,208	+18.3	-32.3
Total Benefits Paid	$412,154	$356,542	$610,706	+15.6	-32.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$189.67	$194.09	$190.37	- 2.3	- 0.4
Number of First Payments	109	98	122	+11.2	-10.7
Number of Final Payments	75	44	91	+70.5	-17.6
Total Beneficiaries	574	524	790	+ 9.5	-27.3
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c]					
Initial Claims Taken	37	44	52	-15.9	-28.8
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	366	375	610	- 2.4	-40.0
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	249	281	524	-11.4	-52.5
Total Benefits Paid	$49,611	$53,249	$91,332	- 6.8	-45.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$199.24	$189.50	$174.30	+ 5.1	+14.3
Number of First Payments	25	23	53	+ 8.7	-52.8
Number of Final Payments	16	23	35	-30.4	-54.3
Total Beneficiaries	78	88	146	-11.4	-46.6
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,504	2,850	3,866	+22.9	- 9.4
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	35,270	31,347	43,149	+12.5	-18.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	33,480	29,191	41,835	+14.7	-20.0
Total Benefits Paid	$5,925,477	$5,104,611	$6,946,251	+16.1	-14.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$176.99	$174.87	$166.04	+ 1.2	+ 6.6
Number of First Payments	1,819	1,504	2,066	+20.9	-12.0
Number of Final Payments	956	798	1,123	+19.8	-14.9
Total Beneficiaries	9,107	8,394	10,655	+ 8.5	-14.5

a. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).
b. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).
c. No joint claims.

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Activities
Quarterly and Annual Summaries
District of Columbia
1985, 1986 and 1987

Fourth Quarter	1985	1986	1987	Percent Change 1985-86	1986-87	1985-87
Initial Claims	10,174	10,389	9,381	+ 2.1	-10.0	- 7.7
Weeks Compensated	108,021	111,329	91,303	+ 3.1	-17.9	-15.4
Total Benefits Outlay	$16,044,136	$18,434,367	$16,073,007	+14.9	-12.8	+ 0.2
Average Weekly Benefits	$148.53	$165.68	$176.04	+11.5	+ 6.3	+18.5
Year						
Initial Claims	40,440	41,565	38,496	+ 2.8	- 7.3	- 4.8
Weeks Compensated	436,676	457,984	428,996	+ 4.9	- 6.3	- 1.7
Total Benefit Outlay	$63,825,807	$74,135,660	$74,947,954	+16.1	+ 1.1	+17.4
Average Weekly Benefits	$146.16	$161.87	$174.71	+10.7	+ 7.9	+19.5

Continued from Page 17

in the average weekly benefit amount more than offset the workload declines and accounted for the outlay increase. Workload in 1987 was also down from 1985, but total outlay, as expected, was the highest for all the years.

Continued from page 9

the Suburban economy and 9,000 in the District. **However, the Washington Area is now creating new jobs at a slower pace than the U.S. economy (2.5 percent versus 3.0 percent for the Nation).**

Holiday Hiring in Retail Trade

With this year's holiday hiring by retailers completed the magnitude of this annual event can now be measured. Between October and December, 1987, Retail Trade in the area gained 16,200 jobs with the District gaining 2,100 jobs, for increases of 4.7 percent and 3.7 percent, respectively. Over the same period last year, the area created an identical number of retail jobs for a 4.9 percent increase, while the District registered an 1,800 job gain for an increase of 3.3 percent.

We Need Your Help!

Hire A Youth This Summer

THE MAYOR'S SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

639-1562

★★★ Government of the District of Columbia
Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor

Department of Employment Services
500 C Street, NW

Hire More Workers, Pay Less Taxes!

TARGETED JOBS TAX CREDIT
PROGRAM (TJTC)
(CALL 639-1661)

HIRE A YOUTH THIS SUMMER
THERE'S AN 85% TAX CREDIT
(CALL 639-1593) FOR DETAILS

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DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
500 C STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

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